

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 02560 121056Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 /057 W
-----122238Z 051438 /63

R 121000Z MAY 77
FM AMENBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4613
INFO RUSBTA/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 4301
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBESSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC HONOLULU

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, BG
SUBJECT: ZIA MEETS WITH DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE REPS; CAMPAIGNS
EXTENSIVELY

REF: DACCA 2434

1. PRESIDENT ZIA MET WITH PRI MOSHENUDDIN AND OTHER LEADERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE MAY 11. MOHSENUDDIN IS "ACTING LEADER" OF THE PARTY WHILE MUSHTAQUE AHMED IS IN JAIL. NO DETAILS OF THE MEETING WERE GIVEN IN DACCA PRESS.
2. ZIA CONTINUES TO CAMPAIGN EXTENSIVELY FOR HIS REFERENDUM. HIS PICTURE IS ON THE FRONT PAGE EVERY DAY AS HE REGULARLY MAKES SPEECHES CALLING ON THE CITIZENS FOR SELF-SACRIFICES, DISCIPLINE AND HARD WORK. HIS TRAVETS HAVE TAKEN HIM TO VIRTUALLY EVERY CORNER OF THE NATION, INCLUDING A FEW STOPS IN SYMBOLIC OR NOSTALGIC PLACES. FOR INSTANCE, ON MAY 9, ZIA WENT TO CHITTAGONG TO RETRACE THE ROUTE

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PAGE 02 DACCA 02560 121056Z

ALONG WHICH HE, LEADING A GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS, HAD FOUGHT STEP BY STEP AGAINST THE OCCUPATION FORCES IN 1971. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE LINING THE ROUTE GAVE ZIA A ROUSING RECEPTION, SHOUTING: ZIAUR RAHMAN ZINDABAD*" ALMOST EVERY DAY, EXHORTATIONS CONCERNING THE REFERENDUM APPEAR IN THE PRESS. TYPICAL WAS THE ONE FOR MAY12: "PARTICIPATE IN MAY 30 REFERENDUM AND GIVE YOUR VERDICT ON

PRESIDENT MAJOR GENERAL ZIAUR RAHMAN'S POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. THIS IS YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT. EXERCISE IT YOURSELF AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO SO."

3. COMMENT: PREVIOUSLY, ZIA HAD MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MOST OF THE OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES (REFTEL). NOW THAT HE HAS MET WITH THE DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE, HE HAS ONLY TO MEET WITH AWAMI LEAGUE LEADERS AND GENERAL OSMANI IN ORDER TO HAVE COVERED THE SPECTRUM. AS FOR HIS CAMPAIGNING, THE CROWDS SEEM TO BE LARGE AND ENTHUSIASTIC. THE ORGANIZATION IS WELL DONE. ZIA HAS HIS ADVANCE TEAMS MAKING CERTAIN THAT THE CROWDS WILL BE LARGE, BUT ACCORDING TO OUR OBSERVERS, HE DOES NOT RESORT TO TRUCKING IN VILLAGERS OR OTHER BLATANTLY MANIPULATIVE DEVICES FOR WHICH POLITICIANS IN BANGLADESH, PARTICULARLY SHEIKH MUJIB, HAVE BEEN KNOWN. MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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